



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/925,466	08/10/2001	Yoshitoshi Yamagiwa	0994-0216P	4584
2292	7590	08/30/2006	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2154	

DATE MAILED: 08/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/925,466	<b>Applicant(s)</b> YAMAGIWA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Mohammad A. Siddiqi	<b>Art Unit</b> 2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-12,14,15,17 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-12,14,15,17 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1, 2, 4-12, 14-15, 17, and 18 are presented for examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

2. Claims 1 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1 and 15 do not perform acts to produce a tangible useful result.

***Priority***

3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject

Art Unit: 2154

matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 12, 14-15, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thackston et al. (6,295,513) (hereinafter Thackston) in view of Kask et al. (6,542,937) (hereinafter Kask).

6. As per claim 1, Thackston discloses a method for providing data-processing service, said method comprising the steps of: uploading primary data (fig 2, col 5, lines 45-55) via the Internet (260, fig 2) from a client computer to a server computer of an application service provider (col 5, 46-54); and

subjecting the primary data to data processing by using an application program provided in the server computer (NICECAD, col 5, lines 46-54), said application program converting the primary data having a first form to secondary data having a second form different from the first form (various format to standard neutral format, col 5, lines 46-54),

Thackston fails to disclose wherein the primary data is product design data and the secondary data is mold design data, wherein the product design data is converted by the application program into mold design data to design a mold for making a product designed with the product design data.

However, the primary data is product design data and the secondary data is

mold design data (col 3, lines 34-50), wherein the product design data is converted by the application program into mold design data to design a mold for making a product designed with the product design data (two application environment is provided for example CAD program and Bend model program, col 3, lines 34-50). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kask and Thackston. The motivation would have been developing web-based collaborative engineering design system.

7. As per claim 2, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Thackston discloses the sever computer stores the secondary data in a state that enables the secondary data to be downloaded to the client computer (col 2, lines 11-16; col 9, line 65- col 10, line 4).

8. As per claim 4, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Thackston discloses the primary data are three dimensional CAD data (col 3, lines 53-59).

9. As per claim 5, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Thackston discloses wherein the primary data are three -

dimensional CAD data regarding product design (NICECAD, col 3, lines 53-59).

10. As per claim 6, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Thackston discloses wherein the secondary data are three-dimensional (col 3, lines 53-59).

11. As per claim 7, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Kask discloses wherein the secondary data are three-dimensional CAD data for mold design (two application environment is provided for example NICECAD program and Bend model program, col 3, lines 53-59).

12. As per claim 8, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Thackston discloses wherein when the primary data are uploaded to the server computer, a backup file containing the primary data is stored so as to enable re-conversion processing to be performed by use of the backup file in a revival processing mode (please see summary of invention, col 2, lines 11-16; col 9, line 65- col 10, line 4).

13. As per claim 9, Thackston discloses conversion process, and invitation to the client (collaborative design, please see summary of the invention, col 44, line 20), a start mail indicating start of the conversion processing is transmitted to a mailer of an administrator who administrates the server (col 44, line 20).

14. As per claim 10, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 9, above. In addition, in addition, Thackston discloses an end mail indicating end of the conversion processing is transmitted to a mailer of an administrator who administrates the server computer (collaborative design, please see summary of the invention, col 44, line 20).

15. As per claim 11, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 10, above. In addition, Thackston discloses a completion mail indicating completion of the conversion processing is transmitted to a mailer of a user (notification, please see summary of the invention, col 44, line 20)

16. As per claim 12, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Thackston discloses further comprising the step of downloading the secondary data from the server computer to the client computer (col 2, lines 11-16; col 9, line 65- col 10, line 4).

17. As per claim 14, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Kask discloses the primary data is data regarding a product designed using a software program for product and the secondary data is data for mold design that can be used by a software program for mold design (col 3, lines 37-50).

18. As per claim 15, The claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above. In addition, Kask discloses the primary data is compatible with a first software program and the secondary data is compatible with a second software program different from the first software program (col 3, lines 37-50).

19. As per claim 17, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 15, above. In addition, Kask discloses the primary data is data regarding a product designed using the first software program, said first software program being for product design and the secondary data is data for mold design that can be used by the second software program, said second software program being for mold design (CAD program and bend model program, col 3, lines 34-50)



20. As per claim 18, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 15, above.

### ***Response to Arguments***

21. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

22. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

U.S. Patent 6,941,317

U.S. Patent 6, 963,908

U.S. Patent 6,343,285

U.S. Patent 6,230,066

U.S. Patent 6,804,568

U.S. Patent 7,069,192

U.S. Patent 6,775,647

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A. Siddiqi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3976. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MAS

  
JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100